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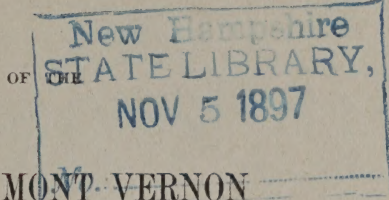
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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES



TOWN OF MONT-VERNON

[TOGETHER WITH THE

## SCHOOL REPORT,

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING MARCH 1ST, 1886.

NASHUA :

B. B. & F. P. WHITTEMORE, BOOK AND JOB PRINTERS.

1886.



## SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

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The selectmen respectfully present to the town of Mont Vernon, their annual report of the receipts and expenditures for the year ending March 1st, 1886:

### RECEIPTS.

Balance in treasury, March 1st, 1885,	\$1,530 87	
Amount of taxes assessed,	3,295 88	
Interest on taxes for 1884,	9 42	
Interest on taxes for 1885,	3 13	
	<hr/>	\$4,839 30

### RECEIVED FROM STATE.

Savings bank tax,	\$867 39	
Railroad tax,	84 21	
Literary fund,	62 83	
Bounty on woodchucks,	22 80	
	<hr/>	\$1,037 23

### MISCELLANEOUS.

Lots sold in cemetery,	\$24 00	
License on pool table to May 1st, 1886,	10 00	
Due from county on account of Henry Manning,	25 00	
	<hr/>	\$59 00



## SUPPORT OF POOR.

Dr. Received of county treasurer,	\$197 25	
Cr. PAUPERS CHARGEABLE TO COUNTY.		
Paid for support of Levi Averill from Sept. 20th, 1884, to Sept. 14th, 1885,		\$63 75
Dr. Chandler, medical attendance upon Levi Averill,		6 00
For support of Chas. Smith, from Sept. 20th, 1884, to Sept. 14, 1885,		63 75
For support of Marden Bennett, from Sept. 20, 1884, to Sept. 20, 1885,		63 75
For relief of Henry Manning's family,		25 00
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$197 25	\$222 25

## PAUPERS CHARGEABLE TO TOWN.

Paid for support of S. C. Langdell, from Sept. 1, 1884, to March 1, 1886, (18 months,)	\$156 00	
For support of W. H. Brown, at county farm, from Sept. 15, 1884, to Sept. 14, 1885,	78 43	
Expenses on account of poor,	6 50	
	<hr/>	<hr/>
		\$240 93

## EXPENDITURES.

Paid State tax.	\$688 00	
County tax,	500 86	
	<hr/>	<hr/>
		\$1,188 86

## SUPPORT OF SCHOOLS.

Paid Center district,	\$320 00	
South     "	256 91	
East     "	110 32	
North    "	98 08	
West     "	84 70	
Amherst  "	19 50	
McCollom Institute,	300 00	
	<hr/>	<hr/>
		\$1,189 51

## SUPPORT OF HIGHWAYS.

## SURVEYORS.

Paid District No. 1,	John T McCollom,	\$28 50
" "	2, Daniel H. Smith,	32 40
" "	3, James Upton,	37 20
" "	4, Clark Campbell,	37 00
" "	5, Alonzo Winn,	52 57
" "	6, Henry H. Trow,	29 75
" "	7, Henry J. Kittredge,	23 53
" "	8, Thomas W. Battles,	33 79
" "	9, Albert D. Morning,	43 03
" "	10, Harvey Stearns,	55 10
" "	11, Justin E. Richardson,	66 08
" "	12, Joseph G. Carleton,	30 93
" "	13, Geo. F. Tarbell,	52 85
" "	14, W. H. Kendall,	63 97
" "	15, John Elliott,	26 02
" "	16, Chas. F. Stinson,	30 00

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 \$642 72

## MISCELLANEOUS.

Paid for digging graves and taking care of yard,	\$17 00
For mowing and cutting bushes and staking yard,	6 00
For repairs on hearse,	11 82
For bounties on woodchucks,	22 80
For printing town reports, 1885,	16 00
For express, postage and stationery,	61
For collector's and surveyors' books,	2 38
For railings in Dist. No. 13,	7 90
J. E. Richardson. land damage, mov- ing wall and putting in culvert,	50 00
Reporting births and deaths,	7 70
Wood for town house,	2 00
Housing road machine,	1 50
J. M. Gleason, digging graves,	5 50
Discount on taxes,	80 07
Books for indigent children,	2 90
Repairing bridge in dist. No. 12,	11 62

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 \$245 80



## ABATEMENT OF TAXES.

Paid overtax, D. H. Smith, 1885,	\$4 00	
“ Jane Elliott, “	2 46	
“ Geo. J. Carson, “	1 15	
“ Edward Jones, 1884,	1 21	
Abatement of taxes for 1884,	14 65	
Abatement of taxes for 1873, as per vote of town,	39 10	
	<hr/>	\$62 57

## TOWN OFFICERS' SERVICES.

Paid C. H. Raymond, selectman,	\$47 50	
J. W. Averill, “	32 00	
Geo. A. McQuesten, “	24 00	
Clark Campbell, moderator,	2 00	
Clark Campbell, treasurer,	20 00	
Dr. Frederic Chandler, clerk,	20 00	
Alonzo S. Bruce, collector,	40 00	
Chas. J. Smith, superintendent of schools,	34 00	
G. W. Averill, supervisor,	3 00	
W. A. Hadley, “	4 00	
Geo. C. Hadley, “	3 00	
Thomas Winters, police, 1884-85,	4 00	
	<hr/>	\$233 50

## NOTES AND INTEREST.

Paid McCollom Institute, note and inter- est,	\$307 50	
A. W. Raymond, on note and inter- est,	142 20	
A. W. Raymond, on note and interest,	227 55	
A. S. Bruce, on note and interest,	256 27	
Ann Campbell, on note and interest,	162 13	
James Upton, interest on note,	10 00	
	<hr/>	\$1,105 65

## TOWN LIABILITIES.

## NOTES AGAINST THE TOWN.

A. S. Bruce, note,	\$200 00
A. W. Raymond, “	200 00

James Upton, note,	200 00	
Ann Campbell, "	200 00	
Due Center school district,	10 00	
Due South school district,	8 96	
	<hr/>	\$818 96
Whole amount of receipts,	\$5,935 53	
Whole amount of bills paid,	4,934 54	
	<hr/>	
Balance in the treasury,	\$1,000 99	
Notes against the town,	818 96	
	<hr/>	
Balance in favor of the town,		\$182 03

All of which is respectfully submitted.

CHARLES H. RAYMOND,	} Selectmen of Mont Vernon.
JOSEPH W. AVERILL,	
GEO. A. McQUESTEN,	

MONT VERNON, FEB. 24, 1886.

I have this day examined the above report and find the same correctly cast and properly vouched.

JOHN TREVITT, Auditor.

## TREASURER'S REPORT.

The Treasurer of the town of Mont Vernon, submits the following report for the year, ending March 1, 1886:

March 1, 1885:

To cash in Treasurer's hands,	915 09
To uncollected taxes for 1873,	39 10
"          "          1882,	17 68
"          "          1883,	12 00
"          "          1884,	547 00
To cash received on billiard table,	10 00
To cash received from State on, Banks, Railroad, &c.,	1014 43
To cash received from State bounty on woodchucks,	22 80
To cash received interest on taxes,	12 55
To cash received lots Soldiers' Cemetery,	24 00
To cash received of collector for 1885,	2933 22
To uncollected taxes for 1885,	362 66
To cash due from county,	25 00
	<hr/> \$5935 53

CR.

By paying State tax,	\$688 00
"    County tax,	500 86
Uncollected taxes for 1882,	7 68
"          "          1884,	30 00
"          "          1885,	362 66
By paying 93 orders of Selectmen,	3745 68
	<hr/> \$5334 88

Whole amount of receipts,	\$5935 53
Whole amount of bills paid,	5334 88

Balance in treasury,	<hr/> \$600 65
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## FINANCIAL CONDITION OF TOWN.

Uncollected taxes and money in treasury,	\$1000 99
Liabilities,	818 96
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Balance,	\$182 03

CLARK CAMPBELL, Town Treasurer.

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February 24, 1886.

I have this day examined the above report and find the same correctly cast and properly vouched.

JOHN TREVITT, Auditor.

## SCHOOL REPORT.

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TO THE CITIZENS OF MONT VERNON :—

The Legislature of this State which was in session through the entire summer of 1885, made itself a name in our State annals. At the opening of the Legislature they were advised by the Governor that little legislation was needed, or expected, yet with his sanction before they finally dispersed they had launched upon the sea of experiment, legislation vitally touching various public interests as anomalous, and revolutionary, as it was unsought, and unexpected by the people. Whatever shall be the final verdict, 1885 will be a year memorable in the legislative history of New Hampshire.

One of the laws above referred to was the abolition of the District School system and the substitution therefor of the so called town system. I concede that this particular act of legislation has the approval of many intelligent citizens. I cannot, however, resist the conviction that the change it contemplates was neither needed nor called for, and its application here in the spirit and intent of this law would be detrimental to the school interests of Mont Vernon, and so believing deem unfriendly comment not out of place here. As the law has stood for years, any town in the State could substitute the town for the district system by a majority vote of those of its inhabitants privileged to act in school meetings. Yet the towns having this option have steadily declined to do this as against their convenience, wishes and welfare. Precisely what the law-making power did, was to *force* upon all the towns of the State what they had persistently rejected as unfitted to their condition. Our common school system has hitherto been based directly upon the suffrage of those interested as parents in the education of their children. It left the election of a Prudential Committee, (whose main function was the selection of teachers,) to the people of each district, assuming its residents to

embody such an aggregate of self-interest and intelligence as would enable them to expend their school tax in such manner as would best subserve their educational interests. But the new law proceeds upon the assumption that the tax payer and the parent are incompetent to determine and to secure what they need and so for their *protection* wrests from them this power and vests it in a commission of three persons, only one of whom can be displaced in any one year. This Board has absolute power in all that relates to the public schools. Thus are those immediately concerned, shorn of their long enjoyed rights. The power is removed from the people at large and confided to a salaried committee. *Here* the district system of our fathers has been acceptable. It has wrought satisfactory results, has answered every end. The McCollom Institute now for 14 years with its annual town appropriation of \$300 has adequately served Mont Vernon as a school of the higher grade, and our needs require no innovation upon established usage.

The law in question is another index of the disposition so rife in some quarters to steal power from the many to confer it upon the few. If the mass of our people are to be deprived of any direct voice in the public education of their children as they are divested of power and their responsibility and concern transferred to a Board of Education would not the natural and unavoidable decline of popular interest in, and care for a matter so vital as public education be a result to be deprecated and avoided. Rigidly impose upon any average community of liberty loving self-governed people a public duty; a few may utterly neglect it, yet from the majority it will receive that attention and mental exercise which educate for its proper performance

Hon. C. A. Sulloway a reputable lawyer in extensive practice in an elaborate criticism on this school law, in the Manchester Mirror, advances some practical suggestions worthy of note by those who concur with your committee as to the character of this legislation. I venture to quote from Mr. S.:

"If there is anything meritorious in the present law it is the provision by which it may be avoided, annulled, made to defeat itself."———Three persons to be elected and known as the "school board" are to have unlimited power, and from their decision there is no appeal. They may establish, locate as



many, or as few schools as they please at such place or places as they please. It is right here, by virtue of this provision of the law that it may be made to defeat itself and everything remain precisely as it existed prior to the passage of the present law. Its strong point in the eyes of its authors is in fact its weak point and opens the door to its destruction. Every thing depends upon this board. Select and elect to it only such as are pledged to oppose the Union system who will direct the school funds, retain and establish schools in districts as they have heretofore been kept, creating new ones if necessary to accommodate, and all will be well."

I introduce here the above extract to indicate a safe method of conforming to the *letter* of the law while nullifying its *spirit*.

Those among us who favor the avoidance of needless and burdensome expense, who believe in "letting well enough alone" in government by the people, it is hoped will adopt the obvious and very practical recommendation of Mr. Sulloway.

During the year I have substituted Harper's geographies for the eclectic series, for the legal term of 5 years, also have introduced the *new* edition of Warren Colburn's arithmetic for the same term. This manual of mental arithmetic has stood the test of experience better than any other book of the kind published in this country, 100,000 copies of this edition having been sold in six months from its issue.

### CENTER SCHOOL.

J. M. GLEASON, Prudential Committee.

Miss A. E. Gould who taught here one term last year was employed the two first terms, and would have been retained through the year had not a more lucrative position in the schools at Milford been offered her. While revising nothing stated in last year's Report, and in the main approving her methods of teaching and supervision, my recent observation compels me to except her teaching of Reading from approval. The progress in this important exercise was palpably retrogressive the last term. Instead of improvement defects were acquired by the pupils requiring time and much patient labor for their eradication. When a teacher combines so many excellencies as Miss Gould, it may seem censorious to note a deficiency, but it is according to my judgment of what candor and truth require.

Miss Lizzie E. Hill of Amherst who had previously taught in the North district, was engaged for the Winter Term of 13 weeks.

She has applied herself to her work with great earnestness, decision and fidelity and with a measure of success which entitles her to the approbation of the district. Her order has been as good as any female teacher could secure here. She is clear and accurate in her knowledge and seeks to impress her pupils with the value of thoroughness in all their work. She exemplifies good reading and her methods of teaching this important branch is excellent.

The Winter attendance upon this school includes elements that suggest as a wholesome thing to be done, the employment of an experienced and efficient male teacher for another Winter.

### SOUTH SCHOOL.

C. H. RAYMOND, Prudential Committee.

Miss Emma F. Trow taught the Spring term of 14 weeks. Miss Fannie L. Carleton the Fall term of 10 weeks, and Mr. David A. Stiles the winter term of 10 weeks.

Miss Trow's term was her fourth of continuous service here. She pursues approved modes of teaching and governing. Miss T. is a valuable teacher and her services as such are in request. Miss Carleton, a resident of the district with less experience than her predecessor, succeeded well. Her teaching faculty is good, and with increased attainments and practice she will make her mark in this vocation. She won the affection of the entire school and her labors here were profitable to the district.

The prudential committee decided, as a needed alternative to secure for the Winter term a male teacher, and procured in Mr. D. A. Stiles a ripe and good one of many years' experience, and the progress made under his faithful and skillful tutelage vindicated the good judgment of the committee. The closing inspection of the school disclosed marked proficiency in Arithmetic and Reading.

### EAST SCHOOL.

GEORGE A. MCQUESTION, Prudential Committee.

Miss Eunice A. Fox taught both terms of this school. As was anticipated from her management of other schools report-



ed last year she conducted the East school with entire success, and acquitted herself to universal acceptance. Her examinations at the close of each term were occasions of much interest attesting good work by the scholars, and a faithful teacher's skill and devotion. During the last month of the winter term, death claimed for its own a bright and scholarly lad of 9½ years, who had been a constant pupil. Willie Averill, residing with his uncle Mr. A. Winn, was attacked with the most malignant form of diphtheria, and, on Dec. 28th, the 12th day of absence from his desk, his remains were borne past the school house to that appointed for all the living. As I examined his full copy book, most neatly written, it seemed an impressive memento of a most rapid passage from the buoyancy and beauty of life's morning to the solitude and gloom of the grave. How fade the illusions of earthly hope and promise!

### NORTH SCHOOL.

GEORGE BLOOD, Prudential Committee.

Eva D. Hutchinson, teacher Spring and Fall terms. The teacher was a recent graduate of the High school at Milford and had not previously taught. She was well equipped educationally for her work, and the school was apparently orderly and studious, and the teacher energetic and interested.—Some complaint reached me of disorder and carelessness about the school house on the part of the larger boys and hints of laxity and failure of the teacher in keeping her school in session the full complement of hours, but in the four visits made, I received an impression of a school vigorously controlled and energetically taught.

### WEST SCHOOL.

GEORGE J. CARSON, Prudential Committee.

The prevalence of scarlet fever in the district delayed the opening of this school until Aug. 24, from which date it was continuously in session for 19 weeks. Miss Grace A. Smiley, of Milford, a graduate of the High School, in 1885, was the teacher. As a first experiment it was a success. There were but four pupils and they all made good progress, and their teacher won the esteem and affection of pupils and parents.



## ROLL OF HONOR.

Names of pupils who have been present every half day of any one term without being tardy.

CENTER DISTRICT.—Percy A. Campbell, three terms; W. E. Dillon, Geo. T. Dillon, Alice F. Bruce. Francena L. Campbell, Harry E. Smith, A. F. Campbell, Hattie M. Starrett, Mabel A. Winters, Ernest M. Gleason, Geo. F. Johnson, Willie Johnson, two terms; Gertie E. Clement, Ruth S. Conant, Lottie R. Stinson, Fred Stinson, Willis Chandler, C. B. Winters, Fred G. Winters, one term.

SOUTH DISTRICT.—Clara E. Dodge, Roy W. Hutchinson, Milan H. Raymond, Jessie A. Trow, L. A. Trow, Eddie W. Trow, two terms; Charles Trow, Maude L. Hutchinson, Fannie Wilkins, Ada Perham, Amy Hutchinson, H. O. Bullard, Bertie F. Trow, one term.

EAST SCHOOL.—M. J. McQuestion, two terms; E. V. Damon, J. D. Brown, M. Herlehy, C. B. Johnson, Mabel Johnson, one term.

NORTH SCHOOL.—Alice R. Blood, one term.

WEST SCHOOL.—Rufus G. Averill, H. J. Averill, one term.

## STATISTICAL TABLE.

DISTRICT.	Summer, Fall and Winter.	NAMES OF TEACHERS.	Length of school in Weeks.	Number of pupils.	Boys.	Girls.	Average attendance.	Wages of Teachers.	Visits by Superintendent.	Visits by Prudential Committee.	Visits by citizens.
Center.	S.	Miss Addie E. Gould,	9	35	19	16	28	\$36.00	3	1	47
	F.	Miss Addie E. Gould,	10	29	15	14	26	\$36.00	2	1	30
	W.	Miss Lizzie E. Hill,	13	35	22	13	32	\$34.00	4	1	39
South.	S.	Miss Emma F. Trow,	14	20	11	9	17	\$24.00	2	1	13
	F.	Miss Fannie L. Carleton,	10	19	10	9	18.3	\$20.00	2	1	11
	W.	Mr. David A. Stiles,	10	19	10	9	18	\$40.00	2	1	18
East.	S.	Miss Eunice A. Fox,	8	15	8	7	11.5	\$20.00	2	0	14
	W.	Miss Eunice A. Fox,	13.5	13	8	5	10	\$21.00	2	1	7
North.	S.	Miss Eva D. Hutchinson,	10	9	5	4	8.5	\$20.00	2	0	9
	F.	Miss Eva D. Hutchinson,	8	9	4	5	8.5	\$20.00	2	0	5
West.		Miss Grace A. Smiley,	18.6	4	2	2	3.8	\$18.00	2	1	16

Amount of money raised by town including Lit-

erary Fund and tax on dogs,

\$890 86

Literary Fund,

52 64

Tax on dogs,

37 00

Amount allotted Center District,

\$319 19

South "

189 91

East "

106 49

North "

98 08

West "

68 05

8th Amherst District,

19 50

CHAS. J. SMITH,

Superintendent of Schools.

MONT VERNON, N. H., Feb. 24, 1886.